

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGRE-00 SSO-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00
EB-08 COME-00 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
INRE-00 /035 W
-----001761 130016Z /66
O 130001Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5942
INFO ALL CONGENS IN CANADA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, PFOR, CA
SUBJECT: U.S. FARMERS BLOCKADE

REFS: A. WINNIPEG 7, B. CALGARY 9

1. INITIAL SATISFACTION IN OTTAWA WITH REPORTS ON
JANUARY 10 THAT CANADIAN CATTLE TRUCKS WERE AGAIN CROSSING
BORDER AND WERE RECEIVING U.S. PROTECTION HAS GIVEN WAY
TO DISMAY AND HEIGHTENED CONCERN OVER REPORTED INCIDENT
OF ATTACKS ON CATTLE BEING UNLOADED AT LONG PRAIRIE,
MINNESOTA. ADDED TO THIS IS VARIETY OF NEWLY ALLEGED
ACTIONS BY U.S. FARMERS, INCLUDING:

--STOPPAGE BY PICKETS OF TRUCKLOAD OF HOGS AT PEMBINA,
N.D.,

--STOPPAGE ON U.S. SIDE OF BORDER OF EMPTY CATTLE TRUCKS
BOUND FOR WINNIPEG,

--CONTINUING REPORTS OF ROAD BLOCKADES IN PEMBINA AREA,

--ALLEGED ASSISTANCE BY LOCAL COMMERCIAL RADIO STATIONS
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IN RELAYING CB RADIO REPORTS AMONG FARMERS.

2. STAFF LEVEL CONTACTS IN EXTAFF AND AGRICULTURE CANADA
TELL US THAT, UNLESS USG IS SEEN AS HAVING SITUATION
UNDER CONTROL SOON, WE CAN EXPECT RENEWED AND STRONGER
OFFICIAL COMPLAINT AS WELL AS CRITICAL PUBLIC STATEMENTS
BY SPOKESMEN, SUCH AS AGRICULTURE MINISTER WHELAN, WHO

WOULD RELISH COMPARING THIS TRADE DISRUPTION WITH U.S.
STATEMENTS ON TRADE LIBERALIZATION.

3. WE LACK CURRENT AND AUTHORITATIVE INFORMATION
PRESUMABLY AVAILABLE TO WASHINGTON AGENCIES AND RECOGNIZE
COMPLEXITIES OF SITUATION, BUT CONTINUED APPARENT
INABILITY TO CONTROL PROBLEM WILL ADVERSELY AFFECT
OTHERWISE VERY FAVORABLE ATMOSPHERE FOR VICE PRESIDENT'S
VISIT AS WELL AS IRRITATE BILATERAL RELATIONS, ESPECIALLY
IN TRADE AREA. ENDERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, CATTLE, EXPORT CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Format: TEL
From: OTTAWA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780165/aaaacdbk.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: dc23fce3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S. FARMERS BLOCKADE
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, PFOR, CA
To: STATE
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